

Public Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances by restoring contaminated resources, enforcing hazardous waste laws, reducing hazardous waste generation, and encouraging the manufacture of chemically safer products.

Riverside Agricultural Park Site-Public Meeting Notice Off-Site Evaluation Community Work Group

Background: The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), is the lead regulatory agency responsible for providing oversight for the removal of soil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) at the Riverside Agricultural Park (Ag Park) property located at 7020 Crest Avenue in Riverside. The Agricultural Park facility is vacant and fenced. It is bordered by Crest Avenue, Rutland Avenue and the Santa Ana River, and is currently planned for residential development. The Riverside Ag Park was cleaned up, and DTSC determined no further action was needed for the property in the spring of 2014. However, due to subsequent community interest and concern, DTSC collaborated with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) to re-evaluate the cleanup. In September and November 2015, DTSC collected additional soil samples on the property, and a few samples contained low-levels of PCBs. Based on these results, soil excavation and removal is required in these areas, and preparation for removing the soil is currently underway.

Community members and an Advocacy Group have shared two primary concerns with DTSC;

1. First that PCB contaminated dust may have moved from the Riverside Ag Park and settled in the neighborhood. DTSC is establishing a process to evaluate this concern;
2. Second, some residents have expressed concerns about their health and that of their children, pets, and families. Although DTSC does not have regulatory jurisdiction with respect to the evaluation of health/medical issues, we are collaborating with the City to bring these issues to the attention of the local health agency. In addition, the City of Riverside has petitioned the Agency for the Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR) to conduct a health assessment of the area.

DTSC has established an Off-Site Community Work Group (Work Group) to provide input and feedback on the approach DTSC will undertake to determine if PCBs may have moved from the Riverside Ag Park and settled in the neighborhood. The first Work Group meeting was held on June 8th, 2016, where DTSC listened to community concerns.

How You Can Participate – The Off-Site Work Group meeting is open to the public. Join us to hear Work Group perspectives, local government agency involvement, the opportunity to give your feedback, and to learn more about this project in your community:

Wednesday, July 13th, 2016, 6-8pm

Arlanza Community Center, 7950 Philbin Avenue, Riverside, CA

WHERE DO I FIND PROJECT DOCUMENTS? – Ag Park project documents are available for review at La Sierra Branch Library, 4600 La Sierra Avenue, Riverside, 92505, or electronically at www.dtsc.ca.gov/AgPark or www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov. You may also review hard copy documents at our DTSC office, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA, 90630-4732, by making an appointment with Jone Barrio, DTSC File Room Coordinator, at (714) 484-5300.

WHO TO CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION – For questions please contact Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630-4732, e-mail: Stacey.Lear@dtsc.ca.gov, or directly at (714) 484-5354.

NOTICE TO HEARING IMPAIRED: TTY users may use the California Relay Service @ 711 or 1-800-855-7100. You may also contact the Public Participation Specialist listed at the end of this update.



